[1st February 1929

A.—A suggestion to develop the Engineering College, Guindy, into a technological institute was recently considered. The Government are advised that proposals to this end can best be formulated only after a permanent Professor is appointed for the Department of Electricity in the College. The High Commissioner and the Director of Public Instruction have been requested to invite applications for the professorship by means of advertisement.

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA:—"May I know whether it is proposed to appoint an Indian as Professor for the Department of Electricity?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It depends on the kind of applications we get for the post."

Appointment of a committee to investigate the defects and needs of women education in this Presidency.

*1308 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to appoint a committee to investigate and report on the defects and the needs of women's education of all grades in this Province?

A.—No.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I know the reasons why the Government do not propose to appoint a committee?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I do not think there is any necessity for such a committee at present."

Work done by the Special Officer for Mappilla education.

*1309 *Q.*—Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the present Special Officer for Mappilla education or the Special Assistant to the Educational Officer of Malabar has done for the progress of education among Mappillas;

(*b*) how many years it is since the present incumbent was appointed and with what duties; and

(*c*) what is the total amount of money spent for this officer?

A.—(*a*) During the term of office of the Special Assistant, 323 additional schools for Mappillas were opened and 20,226 additional Mappilla pupils were brought under instruction. Compulsory elementary education was introduced in seven amsams of the Ernad taluk, three amsams of the Ponnani taluk and in the Mannarghat union. A scheme of education for Mappilla pupils framed by the Special Assistant is under consideration by the Director of Public Instruction.

(*b*) The officer joined duty in the middle of April 1926. He is intended to assist the District Educational Officer, Malabar, generally in dealing with problems relating to Mappilla education, its organization and development.

(*c*) The cost of employing the officer and his establishment together with charges on account of travelling allowance, contingencies, etc., is estimated at about Rs. 6,000 a year. Information as to the exact expenditure incurred so far is not available.